

Claim amendments. Please amend claim 1, as follows:

1. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A self-assembled lipid bilayer material comprising a plurality of lipid bilayer molecules, each lipid bilayer molecule layered upon another lipid bilayer molecule, in a stacked columnar rod-like shaped structure of less than a maximum of 900 Angstroms in diameter.
2. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 1 wherein each lipid bilayer molecule in said stacked columnar structure has a diameters in the range between approximately 600 Angstroms and approximately 900 Angstroms.
3. **(ORIGINAL)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 1 wherein the columnar structure is greater than approximately 300 Angstroms in length.
4. **(ORIGINAL)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 1 wherein the material is stable in aqueous solutions.
5. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 1 wherein a ligand is intercalated between said lipid bilayer molecules.
6. **(ORIGINAL)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 5 wherein said ligand has at least two binding sites accessible from opposite sides of the ligand.
7. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 5 wherein said ligand is a cation.
8. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 5 wherein said ligand is a copper cation.
9. **(ORIGINAL)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 1 wherein said lipid bilayer molecules are functionalized with a receptor molecule.
10. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 9 wherein said receptor molecule is iminodiacetic acid.
11. **(ORIGINAL)** The self-assembled lipid bilayer material of Claim 1 wherein molecules selected from proteins, polymers and metal oxides are intercalated between said lipid bilayer molecules.

12. **(Withdrawn)** A method for making a lipid bilayer material, comprising the steps of:
functionalizing lipid bilayers with a receptor lipid;
preparing a lipid bilayer suspension of the functionalized lipid molecules mixed in a matrix lipid; and
adding a ligand specific for said receptor lipid to form a lipid bilayer material.

13. **(Withdrawn)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said receptor lipid has a headgroup functionality that binds to said ligand.

14. **(Withdrawn)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said receptor lipid has from 1 to 4 hydrophobic tails.

15. **(Withdrawn)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said receptor lipid self-assembles to form lamellar structures in an aqueous solution.

16. **(Withdrawn)** The method of Claim 13, wherein said ligand has a plurality of binding sites.

17. **(Withdrawn)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said lipid bilayer has a geometry selected from a closed spherical form and a flat disc.

18. **(Withdrawn)** A method of preparing a lipid bilayer material, comprising:
dissolving distearylphosphatidylcholine in a solvent to yield a first solution;
dissolving 1-octadecyl-2-(9-(1-pyrene)nonyl)-rac-glycero-3-(8-(3,6-dioxy)octyl-1-amino-N,N-diacetic acid) in a solvent to yield a second solution;
mixing said first solution with said second solution;
removing solvent to form a homogenous lipid film;
adding a solution of morpholinepropanesulfonic acid to yield a third solution;
vortexing said third solution to form a suspension solution;
separating said suspension solution to yield a supernatant component; and
adding a solution of CuCl₂ in a NaCl aqueous solution, wherein the resultant solution self-assembles to form a lipid bilayer material with a columnar structure.